TIMES-VIRGINIAN
In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

ESTABLISHED 1892

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ...... *Editors and Publishers*

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Appomattox, Virginia, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all correspondence to the Times-Virginian, Appomattox, Va. Subscription rate: $2 a year, payable in advance. Single copy 5c. National advertising representative: Weekly Newspaper Representatives, Inc., 920 Broadway, New York City. Advertising rates upon request.

EDITORIAL OPINION

I'M JUST A WHEEL

As the opening of the school session nears, it is timely to consider the following, sent to us by one of the oil companies:

"I'm just a wheel. A steering wheel. And you're my captain. Behind me you're the lord and master of a miracle. You can make me take the kids to school. You can turn me down the sunny road toward town. With me you can guide your goods to the market place .. you can rush the sick to be healed .. you can go in minutes to places hours away. You can do magic.

"Yet, in the blink of an eye, in the tick of your watch, I can turn deadly killer. I can snuff out the life of a kid still full of life — maybe your kid. I can twist a smile into tears. I can wreck and cripple and destroy. I can deal out death like the plague. And I'm no respecter of persons. A child, a grandmother, even you, my friend..It's all the same to me.

"I'm sensitive. I respond instantly to the hands you give me. Give me calm hands, steady hands, careful hands .. and I'm your friend. But give me unsteady hands, fuzzy-minded hands, reckless hands .. then I'm your enemy, a menace to the life, the happiness, the future of every person, every youngster riding, walking, playing.

"I was made for pleasure and usefulness. Keep me that way. I'm in your hands. I'm just a steering wheel. And you're my captain. Behind me you're the lord and master of a miracle .. or a tragedy. It's up to you."

PLUMBING
SALES—SERVICE
Contractor
R. L. BURKE, JR.
Dial 3741 — Appomattox
DITCH DIGGING SERVICE
Septic Tanks
All Types Ditching

POLITICS IN THE EMPIRE STATE

The Democrats have an excellent chance to recapture the governorship of New York State next year. Whether or not Thomas E. Dewey is the Republican nominee, the feeling prevails that the Democrats may win and send their man to the executive mansion in Albany.

If the Democrats do recapture the Empire State, the candidate who wins may have a large following for the party's Presidential nomination in 1956.

It would seem that the Democratic leaders in New York State are anxious to come up with the right candidate. To that end they have already mailed out 50,000 cards to a cross section of known Democratic voters, asking them to return the card with the name of their choice as the party's candidate for governor indicated. And another 50,000 cards are to go out this week. We might observe that this appeals to us as democracy in action. We would like to see this idea tried in Virginia. The party leaders in New York are smart: they want a "people's choice."

First returns from the mailing of the cards, find four men leading in popularity with party members. They are: New York City Mayor Bob Wagner; Representative Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.; Averell Harriman, and James A. Farley. It is more than likely, if this choice continues throughout the remainder of the poll, that one of these four will be the Democratic standard bearer for governor of New York.

OLDSTERS AS EDUCATORS

(Rochester Democrat-Chronicle)

We were intrigued—a Grade A substitute for the word "interested"—by a Washington dispatch saying that 70,000 additional teachers are needed in American elementary schools. The dispatch further reported that a suggestion had been made by responsible federal officials, that many mothers might like to begin a teaching career, now that their children are old enough to go to school.

We go beyond that suggestion to say that the schools have another bank upon which to draw. They might very well investigate the use of retired men and women—those who have reached the age of 65 and have stepped aside to give younger people a chance at a career. The retird person, it is rported, is lost without some duties and responsibilities. Who is better equipped to counsel and inspire youth than the man who knows the worth of education? Who knows better than the man who has made his mistakes and lost opportunities?

There can be no quarrel with the modern idea of education with its insistence on pedgagocial training and strings of college degrees. Our schools are better, of cours, than in the days when the young lady just out of high school was qualified to become a schoolma'am. Yet among such teachers were many who had the native ability to inspire a love of learning. Thousands of successful men and women can look back upon some instructor whose greatest service to them was such inspiration. It counts for more in their memory than other instructors with impressive degrees and brilliant minds, but who lacked the inspirational touch.

Among us are many elderly men and women who have the touch. They also have experience, something which comes from living, not from the books and syllabi. Our present systems ignore talents which come from successful living.

THE PRESIDENT'S ROSY PICTURE OF THE ECONOMY

(Norfolk Ledger Dispatch)

It is impossible to consider the President's mid-year economic report without making due allowance for its political aspects. The President makes an official economic report to Congress early each year. The mid-year statement is an extra report made, in effect, to the nation. It is quite clear that it has been made for the purpose of countering Democratic charges that the country is heading for a depression under the Eisenhower administration.

But the statement presents reasons for encouragement over the economic outlook, even though it may contain elements of political propaganda. For while the assertion that "the recent decline in economic activity has come to a halt" is an admission that the economic activity has been in decline, the President cites authentic indices which point to favorable conditions. Certainly there is no evidence that is visible to the average eye of an economic decline at present that would point to a serious depression.

There is no doubt that in some areas the economy is not in a healthy state. In some sections, for example, unemployment is heavy. The President's figures show that 5.1 per cent of the civilian labor force of the nation was unemployed last month, which is nearly double the amount of unemployment reported in the last three years. But unemployment stood at 5 per cent in 1949 before the Korean war's influence intervened to give the economy an extra stimulus. And more important than the year to year comparisons in the figures, is the fact that unemployment has shown a tendency to decline of late.

The President's statement that the economic decline has come to a halt will not be entirely convincing in those areas which have suffered most from the slowdown year. There is a high rate of unemployment in Massachusetts, in the automobile industry in Michigan, and at some other points. Where unemployment is heavy it will not be easy to persuade people that all is well with the national economy. But there is substance in the President's report to support his statement that the economic decline which has manifested itself in many aspects of the national economy in recent months has been greatly slowed down if it has not actually come to a halt. The President's reassurance on the subject may, in itself, give business a psychological stimulus that will reduce uncertainties that serve as a drag on the economy.

FOR FREER TRADE

(The New York Times)

We welcome the announcement that public hearings will be conducted in September on proposed provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. We look forward hopefully, also, to the Federal Tariff Commission hearings, scheduled for October 1 on items to be included in a reciprocal trade agreement with Japan. These are steps toward a generally freer trade to which our Administration is committed.

At the same time it is indicated that in the next Congress there will be a solid drive to extend the provisions of the reciprocal trade act for three years along with more liberal lines than those that now obtain. This also is good news. Thus far the Administration has not been able to get a long-term extension and has been handicapped in dealing with other countries through their entirely warrantable fear of a reversal in our trade policy.

It is, we believe, generally agreed that the removal or reduction of barriers in international trade is a good thing in principle We have been committed to that principle since 1934, when the then Secretary of State, Cordell Hull gave form to the idea of reciprocal trade agreements as the keynote to better international relations. Since that time, however, some of our devotion to the principle has not been more than lip service and we have been obliged to keep the idea alive by dint of constant endeavor.

The reason for this is obvious. There are always special interests that fear the possible repercussions of any lowering of traiffs and they usually are highly articulate. Sometimes they can make a convincing case, especially if considerations of national defense are involved, as they were in the question of the tariff on watches.

There is, on the other hand, no designated spokesman for the interests of the economy of the nation as a whole except our own President. There must therefore be administrative leadership from the highest level if the view that is to be taken and the course that is pursued are to be in the national and international interest rather than in the interest of some specialized group.

This leadership is now being provided, and it is the part of good citizenship to realize that our interest is to rally behind it. It is necessary to realize that our unusual economic strength and our creditor-nation position make it important and even imperative that we give our support to the measures that lessen the obstacles to a freer flow of goods throughout the world. We can rid ourselves of the fear of foreign competition if we have the correct confidence in our own economy. We are in a position of strength, not weakness, and should be guided accordingly.

INTEREST IN HISTORY

(Winchester Star)

Interest in American history never was greater, if the trend in the book publishing business is an accurate barometer. Book publishing has tobogganed this summer, although it will have a revival of minor proportions this fall.

But books on American history published for popular consumption continue to pour from the presses at a record rate, with many publishing firms entering this field to recoup losses in sales of fiction and other popular works.

Perhaps no book can hold the reader's interest to the same extent as a well illustrated work on a city, a state or an era. It is always interesting to read of what has gone before, and of the participants in events, whether heroic or prosaic.

Western Americana heads the list of historical tomes currently being produced, as it has for years. Books about Custer are still being written and printed, of the open range days of the West, of the days of the buffalo and Indians.

ENTER "PROPERDIN"

(The New York Times)

The isolation of a protein material called properdin, reported in the journal Science by researchers of Western Reserve University, opens up fascinating new vistas in medical science. Properdin, according to the report, is believed to play a major role in the natural resistance to disease which all animals enjoy. Thus the evidence is that the rat, a highly disease-resistant creature, has a high blood level of properdin, whereas the guinea pig, susceptible to disease, has a low properdin level. Man's properdin level in health has been found to be between the highest and the lowest level of other animals.

The new isolation of properdin is a basic discovery in the mechanics of natural immunity to disease. During the past century and a half medical scientists have utilized similar knowledge about acquired immunity to disease to bring about one of the greatest medical advances of all time— namely, the widespread use of vaccination to prevent disease. Vaccination employs the bodily mechanics of acquired immunity. Altered germs injected into the body stimulate formation of disease-killing bodies, and the antibodies against the further threat of infection.

Over 150 years have passed the first vaccination, yet the technique is still being emplored. Around the world, as this is written, reports from the tests of the Salk vaccine against polio are awaited. Perhaps polio can be conquered as smallpox and diphtheria have been conquered, by turning the body's acquired immunity mechanism to the task.

Properdin, the protein now believed to be important in natural immunity or resistance to disease appears to afford somewhat the same opportunities. Can a man's natural immunity be bolstered by supplying properdin which he lacks? Are other materials to be discovered in blood which can be used to bolster natural immunity? Is a new method of disease fighting in sight?

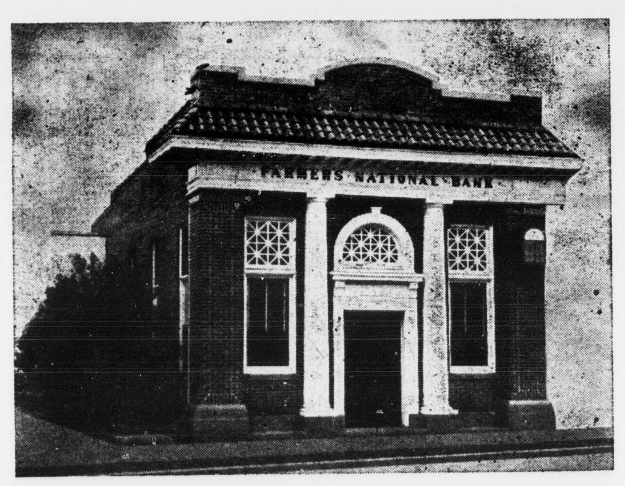
No. one knows the answers to these questions. Discovery of properdin is but a beginning. In understanding of the mechanics of natural immunity lies a range which wiill be worked for a century—or more.

King George VI died February 1952.

Jade is a green material found in talc, or magnesium silicate.

The bird urbot lays 14,000 eggs.

Save Now for Your Future Security



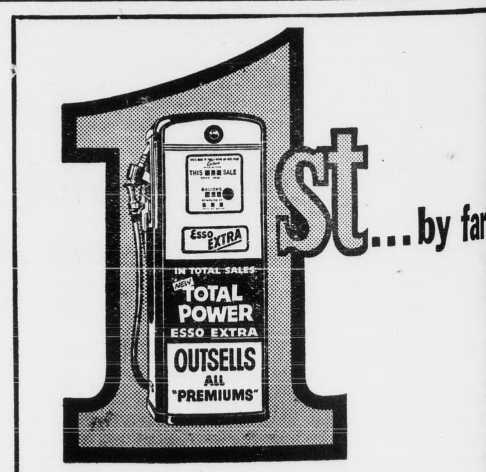
There's no better advice for any person than to save regularly! That's the sure way of making your future free from worry . . . and of having the things you want from life. Whatever your income, start the habit of saving a certain amount each pay day. Your savings will earn our regular rate of interest and you'll be amazed at how fast your account will grow. Stop in today and open your account.

The Farmers National Bank
Member F.D.I.C. — Member Federal Reserve System
Appomattox, Virginia

LeGRAND'S ESSO SERVICE
Route 460
Esso
For Prompt and Courteous Service

GRINELS ESSO SERVICENTER
Route 460
Esso
For Quality Esso Service

FLASH
See our "ALL ALUMINUM COMBINATION STORM-SCREEN DOORS." INSTALL IT YOURSELF AND SAVE. ONLY $39.95. See also our NEW "DUOMATIC 3 TRACK SELF STORING ALL ALUMINUM COMBINATION SCREEN & STORM WINDOW—ONLY $15.95."
When "REPAIRING OR RE-MODELING" dial 2-4501 for "BEST BUILDING MATERIALS." Use famous "STAG" paints for outside (one gallon makes two) and for inside use superior "WALL SATIN" which comes in many colors.
H. E. DeWITT COMPANY
12th & Commerce Streets Lynchburg, Va.



New "Total Power" Esso Extra is breaking all past sales records...far outsells every other premium gasoline because it's the best you can buy!
Esso
First in sales of both premium and regular gasoline in the area where Esso products are sold
Your sign of "Happy Motoring"

WEBB'S ESSO SERVICE
Route 460
Esso
Let Us Recap Those Slick Tires

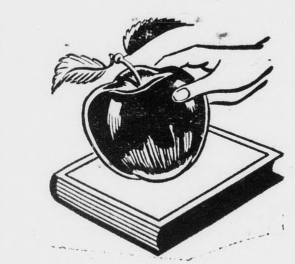
No. 30 of a series

Schools Start Next Week

Here's a Welcome to Teachers and Students!

Every one is getting ready for the first big event of the new season, the opening of schools. It is a great day in every family where children are entering for the first time, and it is a great event in the community life of Appomattox when we join hands in welcoming pupils and teachers back for another session. Right now, we want to impress upon each pupil and teacher that you are welcome in Appomattox, and we want to wish you a happy and profitable year. There is no easy road to knowledge, and we appreciate the hard work that goes into planning a school year. This year we are doubly proud of our school facilities, as rapid progress is being made in the construction of our big new gymnasium and recreational facility, and work is under way on a wonderful new elementary school.

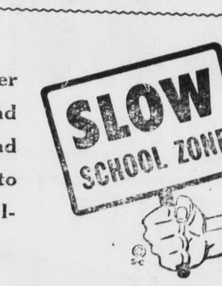
Schools are not just something to be taken for granted. The education of American youth is a major enterprise. Home community taxpayers are proud to contribute to the support of schools and home town business and industry is glad to have a part in making every possible opportunity available for our fine generation of youngsters. Remember, too . . . when you patronize home community business, you are helping make possible the contributions they make to such community enterprises as our schools. Each year home town businesses try to offer positions to local graduates, so we know the value of good school training. We who serve you today were the students of yesteryear. So . . . here's a salute to school opening . . . from your friends in Appomattox.



AND . . . AN APPLE FOR THE TEACHER!

The school teacher is one of our greatest public servants. Much of their reward is in realization of building character and a solid foundation for the younger generation. Here's a welcome to the new teachers who are coming to Appomattox for the first time, and a welcome to those who are returning for this session . . ."An Apple for the Teacher!"

Appomattox loves its children! So let us remember that school buses will be running next week . . . and young people will be crossing intersections to and from school. We urge one and all to take a pledge to drive carefully in school zones. The safety of our children is everybody's business!



This Community Message Sponsored by the following "Growing With Appomattox" firms and institutions, as a public service

Garst & Jamerson
Wood, Lumber and Ties
Dial 2451

Appomattox Telephone Co.
Growing With and Serving the Appomattox Area

Farmers National Bank
Member F. D. I. C.
Member Federal Reserve
Dial 3001

Appomattox Hardware Co., Inc.
Dial 3131
A complete line of Hardware
Appliances - Plumbing - Housewares

J. E. Jamerson & Sons
Building Materials
Paint — Blocks — Woodwork
Cement, etc.
Dial 2673 Appomattox, Va.

Bank of Appomattox
Ideals Create Real Values
Member F. D. I. C.
Dial 2421

J. E. Sears & Co., Inc.
Manufacturers & Dealers in
BUILDING MATERIAL
Appomattox Dial 2891
Lynchburg Branch Dial 2-3409
"Everything to build Anything"

Grinels Motor Co.
Ford Sales & Service
Dial Appomattox 2121

Virginia Novelty CO., Inc.
Appomattox, Virginia

Moses Motor Co.
Chevrolet & Oldsmobile
Minneapolis-Moline Tractors and All Farm Equipment
Sales and Service That Satisfies
Dial 3773

Poe Hardware Co.
Hardware & Electrical Supplies
Dial 2612

Richard D. Robinson
Ambulance Service
Dial 3331 or 2231
Appomattox, Virginia

Appomattox Truck & Tractor
Incorporated
Your International-Harvester Dealer
Dial 3911 Route 460
Complete Farm Equipment

Appomattox Oil Company
C. Lewis McDearmon — Dial 3421
Distributor TEXACO *Products*
Tires & Accessories

Coleman's Feed & Seed Store
Your Southern States Dealer
Dial 3663 Appomattox, Va.

Pulliam Motor Sales
Ford Tractor Sales & Service
Dial Appomattox 3662